

Particularly on capital adequacy norms; and

(b) if so, the action the RBI propose to take to pre-scribe risk weighted capital ratios for banks including foreign banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the question of prescribing risk weighted capital assets ratio as a capital adequacy measure for banks in India (including foreign banks) on the lines of the BASLE Committee norms is under consideration.

Insurance Scheme for Rubber Planters

6839. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an insurance scheme for rubber planters have been introduced in Kerala by the National Insurance Company;

(b) if so, the areas of rubber plantation which has been covered under the scheme, district-wise;

(c) whether the response to the scheme has been encouraging; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to promote the scheme among medium and small scale cultivators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) An insurance scheme covering rubber plantations in India, jointly sponsored by National Insurance Company Ltd. and the Rubber Board, was introduced in December, 1988.

(b) A total area of around 6,500 Hectares has been covered under the Scheme

in the State of Kerala upto 31st March, 1992. The district-wise information is, however, not available with the Company since the Certificates of Insurance are issued by the Rubber Board, through its regional offices spread all over India.

(c) and (d). It is too early to judge the performance of the Scheme since it was introduced only in December, 1988 and that too, on optional basis. Efforts are, however, being made to popularise the Scheme among cultivators.

[Translation]

Task Force for Powerlooms

6840. SHRI N. J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any task force to determine the ways and extent of the credit to be provided to the powerlooms for their modernisation, and

(b) if so, the details of the facilities proposed to be provided to the powerlooms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Task Force was constituted by the Ministry of Textiles in May, 1987. It was to study the problems of credit in the decentralised powerlooms sector and make suitable recommendations in this behalf.

Major recommendations of the Task Force had been that one time requirement of funds for working capital and for modernisation of powerlooms be made available which could be enhanced in subsequent years. These loans should be on the terms and conditions which are applicable to SSI Units. State Governments should encourage co-operativisation in the powerloom sector. State

level Apex marketing institutions be encouraged for marketing activities.

[English]

**ICICI's Agreement with Bank
of New York**

6841. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India negotiated for a guarantee worth \$ 100 million for export and import with Bank of New York and Lazard Freres and Company in February, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the loss suffered by ICICI in the deal, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-
WAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Export of Tea to commonwealth of
Independent State**

6842. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a fall in the export of Indian tea to the erstwhile Soviet Union;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the orders received for the export of tea to the Commonwealth of

Independent States including Russia during the year 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-
MANKHURSHEED): (a) and (b). The export of tea to erstwhile USSR from India during 1991 was estimated at 104.5 Million Kgs. with an export earnings of Rs. 546.85 crores compared to the export of 128.6 Million Kgs. valued at Rs. 670.72 crores in 1990 indicating a decline of 24.1 Million Kgs. In respect of volumes and Rs. 123.87 crores in respect of export earnings.

(c) Trade provision for exports of tea from India to Russian Federation during 1992 is fixed at 60 Million Kgs. on rupee payment basis. Similarly in respect of Uzbekistan a protocol for export of 3 Million Kgs. of tea with a value of US \$6.10 Million has been signed. In respect of Kazakhstan 15000 tonnes of tea has been agreed for export from India.

[English]

Recommendations of Vohra Committee

6843. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA
RAJE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANS-
PORT be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the recommendations made by B. B. Vohra Committee;

(b) the total amount required for the development and maintenance of National Highways as recommended by Vohra Committee? and

(c) the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Salient aspect on which the Committee gave its rec-